Statement

Security considerations:

1. The LICENSEE shall not normally employ bulk encryption equipment in its network. Any encryption equipment connected to the LICENSEE'S network has to have prior evaluation and approval by the TELECOM AUTHORITY.

2. The LICENSEE shall provide to the TELECOM AUTHORITY location details of switching centres, transmission centres, including routing details etc. Implementation of installation of the concerned equipment and execution of the concerned project shall be taken up only after the approval by the TELECOM AUTHORITY. Locations of these centres shall not be changed without prior approval of the TELECOM AUTHORITY.

3. In case of transmission lines, the Licensee shall take prior approval of the route from the telecom Authority before commencement of execution of the associated project.

4. The LICENSEE shall provide necessary facilities to the Government to counteract espionage, subversive act, sabotage or any other unlawful activity.

5. The LICENSEE shall make available on demand to the agencies authorised by the Govt, of India access to the switching centres, transmission centres, routes etc. for technical scrutiny and for inspection.

6. All foreign personnel to be deployed by the licensee for installation, operation and maintenance of the LICENSEE'S network- shall be security cleared by the Govt, of India prior to their deployment.

7. The LICENSEE shall ensure protection of privacy of communication and ensure that unauthorised interception of messages does not take place.

8. TELECOM AUTHORITY shall have the right to take over the SERVICE, equipment and network of the LICENSEE in part or in whole of the SERVICE Area in case of emergency or war or low intensity conflict or any other eventuality in public interest, as declared by the Government of India. Specific orders or direction from the Government issued under such conditions shall be applicable to the LICENSEE.

9. TELECOM AUTHORITY reserves the right to modify these conditions or incorporate new conditions considered necessary in the interest of national security.

Reintroduction of night sections for delivery of Letters

1717. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether thirteen night sections in Maharashtra were identified by the Sub-committee of the consultative Committee which operate at night and connect the Post Offices in the District early morning; if so, which are these sections; and

(b) what are the reasons that Department of Posts is not reintroducing the sections e.g. Bombay-Pune and Pune-Bombay which have distinct delivery advantage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The Sub-Committee of the Consultative Committee on review of sorting of mails recommended restoration of sorting sections on 13 routes vide list in statement *(see* below). Maharashtra does not figure in the list. The list according to the Committee was only illustrative and not exhaustive.

(b) RMS transit Sections work between Bombay and Pune. Seven transit Sections carrying closed mail bags operate on this route containing sorted mail for ensuring early delivery at the destination stations.

Statement

(i) Bangalore-Mysore Line (ii) Kangra Valley Railway (NR) (iii) Delhi-Ambala-Nangaldam with extension to Una and beyond upto Amb and Mukerian on the completion of the Railway Line (iv) Jalandhar-Pathankot-Jammu (with extension upto Udharnpur on completion of Railway Line, (v) Jalandhar-Hoshiarpur (vi) Rewari-Bhatinda (vii) Jalandhar-Ferozpur via Kapurthala (viii) Ludhiana-Ferozpur via Moga (ix) Ludhiana-Hissar (x) Kalka-Shimla (Narrow Gauge) (xi) Bhopal-Nizamuddin (MP-32) (xii) Howrah-Gaya (C-28) (xiii) Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Tinsukia

Examination of Receipts by Postal Superintendents

1718. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) how many senior Superintendents personally examined receipts etc. as envisaged in para 8, 9 and 10 of the Circular dated 27th February, 1991 in RMS Division in Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar Circles;

(b) whether it is a fact that mails received from Delhi, Madhya Pradesh and RMS Divisions in Uttar Pradesh, Contain dumped mails as received in RMS Divisions in Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Kerala Postal Circles; and

(c) if so, what action has since been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) All Senior Superintendents of RMS in Maharashtra, U.P. and Bihar Circles have personally examined receipts etc. as envisaged in the Circular cited and other instructions of the Department. In the event of receipt of reports of dumping of mails against a particular set, the matter is taken up with the concerned Circle office/ Regional office for strengthening supervision.

(b) and (c) There is, no instance of persistent dumping by the Circles like Delhi, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. However, certain lapses take place for which corrective measures are taken. Whenever such lapses are reported, concerned officers are alerted to strengthen supervision and monitoring.

Illegible Postal Stamps

1719. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Postal Marks are legible and in cases where they are illegible what remedial action is taken to get legible Postal Marks;

(b) whether it is a fact that in large number of letters and Post Cards (40% of them) the stamps are not defaced; what is the extent of such letters;-whether it is also a fact that taking advantage of this position used stamps are reused on a mass scale in Metropolitan Cities like Bombay; and

(c) whether it is a fact that 40% of the letters do not have the delivery stamps, indicating the date and time and in cases where there is a delivery stamp it is not legible in a number of cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Postal Marks are generally legible. Providing clear and legible Postal Marks is a continuous endeavour on the part of Department of Post, which is done through regular cleaning and maintenance of the stamps and regular monitoring. In order to improve the quality of hand cancellers, production of hand cancellers through advanced mechanised process is being done' by